

**SUMMER
EDITION**
Printed weekly

THE DAILY TEXAN

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Monday, July 02, 2012



HOT HOT HEAT

With Texas hitting record high temperatures last week, keeping cool has placed a greater strain on energy usage and raised health concerns.

NEWS | PG. 6

FRACKING:
WHY A UT STUDY
MUDDIED THE WATERS
IN THE DEBATE OVER
FRACKING
OPINION p.4

THE DAILY TEXAN

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Cover photo by Andrew Torrey | Daily Texan Staff

Cesar Orona, a driver for Austin Ice Works, unloads 10 pound bags of ice into one of the many ice boxes the company owns throughout Austin. The company saw an increase in ice sales corresponding to last week's high temperatures.

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Baking & fracking

Does baking a cake make a mess in the kitchen? No, not literally. The chemical changes that occur when cake batter sits in a hot oven do not directly cause spills, greasy counter tops and other reasons for clean up.

Most bakers, however, will respond to that question about a mess more broadly. They will tell you “baking a cake” starts when they line up flour, eggs and sugar on a counter, ends when they confront a sink full of dirty dishes and definitely makes a mess.

Consider similar questions about the purported mess resulting from hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. Fracking is a method of natural gas extraction, which involves injecting millions of gallons of water, sand and chemicals into soft, shale rock underground.

To geologists, “fracking” is the isolated act of fracturing the shale for the purposes of gas extraction. But to so many others — lawmakers, regulators and landowners, especially — “fracking” begins when a geologist instructs an energy company to drill a fracking well on someone’s property, ends when the company leaves the same property and definitely makes a mess.

This summer, the Governor of New York is reconsidering a 2008 moratorium on fracking in parts of New York state. As a result, protestors have once more thrown the question of fracking’s consequences into the national spotlight and tied up Albany phone lines. The protestors express fears that fracking will cause irreversible harm to groundwater. To the protestors, their concerns

about fracking focus on both its before-and-after consequences — including ground spills and mishandling of wastewater.

Where does UT fit into this picture of cake-baking, fracking and New York protestors?

Start with the UT Energy Institute, which was founded in 2009 “on the notion that colleges and universities are uniquely positioned to conduct independent and impartial scientific research,” according to its website. The Energy Institute aims to “inject science and fact-based analysis into what is often a contentious dialogue, and in doing so bring clarity to the debate that shapes public policy on energy issues,” the website says.

In February, the Energy Institute published a study about fracking and distributed an accompanying press release bearing the headline, “Study Shows No Evidence of Groundwater Contamination from Hydraulic Fracturing”. The study specifically argues that the baseline data available about the groundwater sources fracking wells are purported to have contaminated is too limited. Therefore, the study argues, researchers cannot draw conclusions that fracking caused contamination.

Charles “Chip” Groat, a geology professor and the lead researcher on the study, said that researchers defined fracking in the isolated sense — apparently he means not in the broadly defined (as in cake-baking from flour spills to dirty dishes) sense.

The Energy Institute’s study also analyzed media coverage about fracking and as-

essed it as, overall, “decidedly negative.” Such negative media coverage, the Energy Institute study concludes, spawns the hasty and inaccurate assumptions about fracking causing groundwater contamination.

Read in its entirety, the study’s most compelling point calls for more research and more restraint: “[T]he most rational path forward ... is to develop fact-based regulations of shale gas development based on what is currently known about the issues and at the same time, continue research where need for information to support controls in the future.”

But by using the headline “no evidence of groundwater contamination” in its press release, the Energy Institute oversimplified its own study’s conclusions and thereby contributed to the media’s misreporting about fracking.

The fracking debate needs clarity not oversimplification. The oversimplified headline of the Energy Institute’s press release errs on the side of favoring the fracking industry’s viewpoint. Notably, UT gets significant funding from companies with stakes in the natural gas industry.

Review of news stories published, broadcast or posted after the Energy Institute’s press release in February suggests that the headline dominated what reporters told the public. Most of the media coverage of the Energy Institute’s study failed to mention its finer points. For example, the point that better regulations are needed for processes related to natural gas

STUDY continues on **PAGE 5**

A call to the unregistered

Editor’s note: The Texas Senate race is up for grabs, and since most expect a Republican winner in November, the July 31 runoff between Ted Cruz and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst will count.

JULY 2: July 2 (today) is the deadline to register to vote.

SEPTEMBER 7: First day to apply for a ballot (for the November 6 election) by mail.

OCTOBER 9: Last day to register to vote in the November 6 election.



LEGALESE

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Summer reading

Editor's Note: What book did you read in college that most influences the way you think today? We posed that question to a well-known UT alum, a coach, two professors and a high-profile administrator. Notably, one respondent made a point to note that his most memorable read in college was not assigned. All their responses are below.

"Coach Brown didn't limit it to one book, but he did limit it to one subject. During the time Mack was in college at Vanderbilt and Florida State in the late 1960s and 1970s, the most dominant college athletic program in the country was UCLA basketball. John Wooden, the Bruins' legendary coach, became a national icon. Mack wanted to be a coach, so he said he read all the books he could find either by or about Coach Wooden, because Mack wanted to pattern his career after that of Coach Wooden. He still uses many of Coach Wooden's principles today."

Bill Little, spokesman for head football coach Mack Brown

"One of the books that most influenced my life that I read in college, I didn't read for a course. It was Andre Breton's "Manifestos of Surrealism." This work remains for me a central and powerful articulation of the importance of the imagination. It addresses the perplexing gaps between representation and expression that any artist encounters as well as being one of the great modern declarations of liberty."

Dean Young, poet and UT English professor

"Atlas Shrugged" by Ayn Rand

Bob Metcalfe, professor of innovation at the Cockrell School of Engineering and inventor of Ethernet

"Two books above all others influenced me during college. *Physics and Philosophy* by Sir James Hopwood Jeans (1942) attracted me to philosophy in general, which eventually led to my interest in legal philosophy. At the same time, William Faulkner's "The Sound and the Fury" (1929) was an epiphany for me, illustrating that literature is not just good storytelling but is multi-layered. It can shape our values in profound ways and give us empathy for people from whom we might otherwise be completely removed by space or time."

William Powers Jr., UT President

"If I could have afforded to go to school for the rest of my life, I would have focused on Texas and Southwestern history. What I read primarily had nothing to do with my course material, and what I liked to read were historical novels and historical biographies. [History] is a continuous influence on what I think about the world, we're all so connected, [especially] when you know the historical background of any place. And there's nothing more fascinating than Texas and the Southwest."

Red McCombs, founder of the Red McCombs Automotive Group, co-founder of Clear Channel Communications and namesake of the McCombs School of Business

Fireworks and Adlai Stevenson

By Jim Harrington
Guest Columnist

For Americans, the Fourth of July is that grand mid-summer holiday with hot dogs, picnics, parades and fireworks — and, if lucky, a three-day weekend.

As with most national holidays, we have an uncanny way of flattening the fourth of July, that is, limiting it to something festive or vacation-like, rather than looking at the challenges July 4th presents for us to be better Americans and accomplish the goals for which we declared independence from England.

Certainly, we should celebrate our historical victory over George III's oppressive monarchy. Our success inspired other countries to depose tyrannical regimes and undertake their own democratic endeavors.

As our Declaration of Independence proclaims, we began this great experiment in the name of the "self-evident truths" that all persons are "created equal," "endowed" with the "unalienable" rights of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" and that the purpose of a government is "to secure

these rights."

The authors of the declaration, we know, had a narrow view of who had unalienable rights — essentially white male freeholders and landowners. Subsequent generations steadily and painstakingly extended the declaration's promises to all Americans.

The declaration is a communitarian statement of principles; it's not just about individuals. It's a world view that the last line of the declaration emphasizes: "we mutually pledge to each other our

"Balancing the budget by un-employing people is not a pursuit of happiness."

lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor."

Yet, as a country, we are veering away from our community goals of life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness for everyone. We're becoming ever more individualistic, and even selfish. A common question is "Why should I pay school taxes if I don't have any children in

school?" A democratic society thrives with an educated populace, and everyone benefits. But "what's in it for me" has overpowered "what's good for all of us."

We see an appalling, ever-expanding mal-distribution of wealth in our society. There's nothing inherently wrong with wealth, but any view of a decent society should entail sharing a respectable share of wealth through taxes and/or philanthropy.

For a county where a sizeable percentage of the popu-

lation lays claim to an ethic based on the Judeo-Christian Scriptures, we are remarkably short on feeding the hungry, caring for the elderly, healing the sick, paying just wages, narrowing the inequality between rich and poor, and pounding swords into ploughshares. And we have buried civil dialogue in a grave of acrimonious politics.

Few are the political, religious and moral leaders who call Americans to the task of building community so that all share in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Instead, we see teachers and education under attack and maligned by highly paid commentators. Balancing the budget by short-sheeting education only exacerbates social stratification and denies equal opportunity to lower-income and educationally-challenged youth.

Nor do we use Independence Day to take stock of workers' rights and how we might better protect them so that they also share in the pursuit of happiness. Balancing the budget by un-employing people is not a pursuit of happiness.

On this Fourth of July, let's celebrate, but also examine where we are as a nation and recommit ourselves to our ideals. As Adlai Stevenson, put it, "Patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime."

— James C. Harrington is Director of the Texas Civil Rights Project and adjunct professor of law at UT

STUDY continues from PAGE 5

extraction. CNN, Fox News, The Houston Chronicle and the Natural Gas Alliance all ran stories or emphasized a quote that parroted the press release's headline. Notably, the Fort Worth Star Telegram captured the subtleties of the study, but only in a second-day story.

The Energy Institute's study cost \$270,000 to produce, according to a University spokesperson. The Institute's \$1.3 million operating budget, most of

which comes from the state's Available University Fund, paid for most of the study's costs. Some funding for the study came from individual colleges, including \$100,000 from the College of Engineering. Natural gas companies did not contribute directly to the funding of the study. There is no evidence that the researchers were influenced or conscious of any industry funding. But could all of the researchers be entirely

unaware of UT's money from natural gas companies?

Regulated and determined to be safe, fracking could be a boon for this state's economy, and an answer to the worrisome questions about U.S. reliance on foreign oil. But by releasing a study in a hurry with an accompanying press release that ballyhooed conclusions about fracking not contaminating groundwater, the Energy Institute contributed to public

confusion about the fracking industry. Within the realm of possibility: Further research will show fracking, or at least fracking-related processes, have environmental consequences. By coming out so hurriedly and with a press-release headline so strongly overstating the conclusions drawn by the study, the Energy Institute muddled the waters.

— The Daily Texan Editorial Board



Heat endangers energy, health

By **Hannah Jane DeCiutiis**

Record high heat in Central Texas has Austin city officials worried about energy usage and public health, but experts predict the weather will cool off and not cause severe damage.

Temperatures in the triple digits throughout late June peaked June 24 at 109 degrees. Energy officials said Austin saw its highest recorded energy usage ever recorded for June but maintain Texas has enough energy reserves to keep the public comfortable in the heat. Troy Kimmel, UT geography lecturer and KEYE meteorologist, said cooler weather patterns can be expected in the coming months.

“At this point, I think we’re in a changing pattern even though it has started off a little on the warm side,” Kimmel said. “There’s an indication that the temperatures will trend back down, although still a little warmer than what we’d expect seasonably.”

Robbie Searcy, spokeswoman for the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, said last summer saw the highest energy rates ever recorded in Texas or Central Texas. ERCOT is a system operator that accounts for 85 percent of Texas’ electric load, according to the ERCOT website.

“Going into this summer, we anticipated that there would be some seriously hot days like we’re experiencing now,” Searcy said. “It



Marisa Vasquez | Daily Texan Staff

Michael Plemons relaxes in his hammock at the Barton Springs Spillway Thursday afternoon. Plemons said it’s a good way to beat the heat because hammocks are always attached to trees and in the shade.

was like it is now for most of the summer last year. It definitely was brutal.”

ERCOT has protocol set in place to ensure enough energy is maintained for the public to operate comfortably, Searcy said, but it is important for residents to do their part in reducing energy use to keep energy reserves stable.

“We basically try to operate with a few thousand megawatts (MW) of extra energy available in the event of an emergency,” Searcy said. “If we drop below 2,300 MW of reserves, we generate an Energy Emergency Level 1. There are steps ERCOT goes through to ensure energy remains reliable through those situations.”

An Energy Emergency

Level 2 is called when energy reserves drop below 1,750 MW. At this point, certain industrial loads and other entities have volunteered to cease their energy use until reserves are stable, Searcy said.

“We had that situation a couple times last summer, and of course we increase our pleas to the public,” Searcy said. “Worst case scenario, within this context is if that didn’t work either and we’re still seeing reserves drop, there are a series of rotating outages that occur. That’s what we call an Emergency Level 3.”

Kimmel said signs of an El Niño Southern Oscillation pattern are apparent in the Pacific Ocean, which indicates residents should expect wetter conditions

in the southern region of North America.

“The Pacific Ocean waters off the west coast of South America are showing signs of warming,” Kimmel said. “If that’s the case, then with time it would tend to get us a little more rain around here and more in the way of clouds.”

The Austin and Travis County Health & Human Services Department released a statement with tips for how to stay healthy and safe in the current heat, such as planning strenuous activity earlier or later in the day to avoid peak temperatures and avoiding caffeinated or alcoholic beverages.

With a heat-related fa-

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Debate continues over public, private firework displays

By **Bobby Blanchard**

At a Mr. W Fireworks stand along U.S. Highway 290 west, sales people Skeye Sullivan and Zachary Pickrell sit in lawn chairs beneath a pitched tent, patiently awaiting customers. When a silver Tahoe pulls off to the side of the highway, Sullivan quickly rises to greet her new customers. She demonstrates a firecracker to a young boy, who giggles and claps his hands in excitement.

This stand is one of many firework stands that surround major and minor roads in Travis County outside of Austin’s city limits. Travis County has a burn ban in place until July 25, although fireworks can still be legally sold from June 24 to July 4. While Travis County officials are encouraging

citizens to go to public firework displays, some people are taking advantage of the opportunity to buy the explosive light and noise devices in preparation of Fourth of July celebrations.

Pickrell said this is his and Sullivan’s first time selling fireworks, but they plan to do it again New Years and in the future. He said the most popular item they’ve sold so far has been small noise-making firecrackers.

Sullivan, who said she has always loved fireworks for as long as she could remember, said fireworks are something everyone can enjoy. “It’s fire,” Sullivan said. “What’s not to love?”

Some disagree with Sullivan. Concerned with safety, Travis County of-

FIREWORK continues on PAGE 10



Illustration by Colin Zelinski

Healthcare debate continues, ripples affect students

By **Hannah Jane DeCiutiis**

Although the Supreme Court decided Thursday to uphold key parts of President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act, including extend coverage for child dependents until age 26, many around the state are questioning how Texas will go forward with a Medicaid expansion.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, a comprehensive health reform act signed into law March 2010 by President Obama, includes an individual mandate requiring individuals to purchase insurance if they are not insured by an employer or public insurance plan such as Medicare or Medicaid. The Supreme Court initially ruled the mandate to be unconstitutional under the Commerce Clause, as proposed by the Obama Administration, but voted to uphold the mandate as a tax in a 5-4 ruling last week rather than a penalty fee.

Danny Zeng, government and finance senior and communications director for UT's College Republicans chapter, said the provision of the bill that allows child dependents to stay on their parents' insurance until age 26 seems like a positive change but may have detrimental long term effects on younger generations.

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, ap-

proximately 2.5 million dependents nationwide gained private coverage between September 2010, when the provision was enacted, and June 2011.

"It sounds good from the surface, and as young people, it's hard to say that we don't like the provision," Zeng said. "But I think we believe in the long term that the provision doesn't really encourage us to go proactively and find a job and go out there and look for health care on our own."

Zeng said the split vote between justices made the ruling very interesting since Chief Justice Roberts, a conservative, sided with the court's four more liberal justices.

"I personally was really surprised with the decision because I thought Chief Justice Roberts would side more with the conservative block," Zeng said. "I think he did that to protect his own legacy. It's controversial and probably one of the biggest decisions he'll get to make."

The ruling also upheld the federal expansion of Medicaid requiring states to increase the number of eligible citizens covered with the help of additional federal funding. The states are granted the choice to implement the expansion or to instead exempt themselves from the additional funding.

Josh Havens, spokesman for the governor's office, said Gov. Rick Perry will be working with Attorney General Greg Abbott as well as other state agencies

in the coming months to determine the appropriate course of action for the expansion of Medicaid. He said Texas is continuing to find a way to stop the health care bill entirely.

"Gov. Perry will stand up and do what is right for Texas, based on the priorities of fiscal responsibility and the best interests of Texas taxpayers," Havens said. "As the governor has previously made clear, he has no interest in fast tracking any portion of this bankrupting and overreaching legislation. We will continue to call for the full repeal of the bill."

Another provision of the bill includes the 80/20 rule, or Medical Loss Ratio standard, which requires insurance companies to spend at least 80 percent of consumers' insurance premium payments on medical care, leaving only 20 percent for administrative costs such as company salaries and advertising. In a statement, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said this rule will result in \$1.1 billion rebates nationwide. Rebates in Texas will amount to \$167 million, averaging \$187 per family, according to healthcare.gov, a website managed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Huey Fischer, government junior and president of UT's University Democrats chapter, said adapting to the Medicaid expansion is the most fiscally responsible course of action for Texas.

"We've got to do what's affordable and sustainable for the state," Fischer said. "Right now with the legislature having cut so much the last session, those are funds we desperately need and something that Texas should definitely take advantage of. It's the responsible thing to do."

The Supreme Court handled the case in a respectable way, Fischer said, and their decision should be respected regardless of a person's individual views.

"I'm grateful that the court's outcome was the way it is," Fischer said. "It was a very politically-charged case. It was brought forth with very politically-charged intentions by those who opposed it. I honestly feel like the justices were able to keep their politics out of it at the end, even though it was a 5-4 split."

Gary Freeman, government professor and department chair, said despite the finality of the ruling, the end of the political battle over the Affordable Care Act is nowhere in sight.

"You could say the court upheld the constitutionality of the mandate, but they have not settled the disagreement over it at all," Freeman said. "In a way, they have made it kind of worse. We're in for a long and nasty fight."

Freeman said the Affordable Care Act will have far-reaching effects for years to come and potentially be used as a gauge for the positions of future Supreme Court justices.

"I expect the issue to be heat-

ed for a long time," Freeman said. "The next time a justice dies or resigns from office and there's an appointment, the big issue will be whether the can-

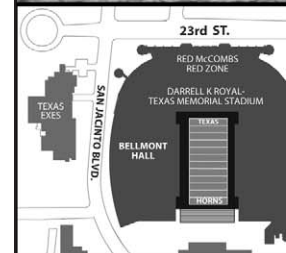
didate does or does not believe Obamacare is constitutional. Similar to how abortion was a few years ago, Obamacare will be a sort of litmus test."



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FOUR-TIME BIG 12 CHAMPIONS



HEAT continues from page 6

fatality in Bell County reported June 24, Kimmel said it is critical for residents to constantly be in check with their health.

"Heat is kind of a silent killer," Kimmel said. "It's not like a tornado

rolls down the street and takes you down. It's something that can be rather benign in its onset. This is something that concerns us. I know the city of Austin has taken extra precaution with

their employees."

Kimmel said it is impossible to tell precisely how the heat will trend out for the rest of the summer, but residents should not jump to worst-case conclusions. "Just because we started

out the summer with this record high heat doesn't mean we should assume that's the kind of summer we're going to have," Kimmel said. "That's a pretty dangerous assumption to make at his point."



Top Left: Attendees Jacklynne Horne and Stephen Miller set off sparklers at Firefest. This was the festival's first year, featuring music by local bands, camping and a zone for people to launch their own fireworks. | **Pu Ying Huang**

Top Right: Lois Long bags the fireworks that Jay Raamann and his daughter Asti, 10, purchased at the American Fireworks stand. | **Marisa Vasquez**

Bottom Left: Festival attendees try to keep the ball in the air during a crowd game at Firefest Saturday evening. | **Pu Ying Huang**



Bottom Right: Adults and children watched and participated in launching a variety of fireworks at Firefest's discharge zone. | **Pu Ying Huang**

Right: Jennifer Burleigh assists customers at the American Fireworks stand on FM 620 Friday evening. | **Marisa Vasquez**



SNAP, CRACKLE, POP

With a few more days until Fourth of July, senior photographers Marisa Vasquez and Pu Ying Huang took a look at some pre-Independence Day festivities in the Austin area.

Former Daily Texan editor honored

By Bobby Blanchard

HOUSTON — Friends and family gathered in Houston Saturday night to share memories of Lorena “Lori” Rodriguez, the first Hispanic editor-in-chief of The Daily Texan and former minority affairs reporter for the Houston Chronicle. Rodriguez died in her home in early June at age 62. The cause of her death is currently not known.

At Rodriguez’s memorial service, friends and family described Rodriguez as a talented writer, a passionate woman and someone who could be both quiet and incredibly outgoing. “The stories I know about

Lori Rodriguez are not sad,” said Steve Wisch, a former managing editor of The Daily Texan. “They are about a woman who has courage that burns like a fire and can write passionately.”

Rodriguez was editor-in-chief from 1971-72, an era when the newspaper was under pressure from the UT Board of Regents vying for more influence over the Texan. As the paper’s previous contract with Texas Student Publications was expiring, the Board of Regents reduced funding and pushed for a new contract that would give them more control of the editorial board in an effort to silence the Texan.

“She wrote persuasive, compelling, hard-hitting editorials,”

Wisch said. “She made it plain and clear in her own unique style that the only way The Daily Texan was going to go away was if they used bulldozers and forklifts and physically forced us out of the building.”

After graduating from UT, Rodriguez worked under U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen in Washington before joining the Houston Chronicle in 1976.

At the Chronicle, Rodriguez became well known for her coverage of the Hispanic community. She was adept in her reporting and columns and wished to expand her coverage when she caught a rise in Houston’s Hispanic population during her tenure. In response, the Houston Chronicle created a minority affairs beat for Rodriguez.

“She never considered her minority affairs column writing position as a 9 to 5 job,” said Jack Loftis, former Houston

Chronicle editor. “It was her life. It was her passion. And she never hesitated to tell her readers her position, and she never hesitated to tell her editors her position. And looking back, we were better for it.”

But friends stressed Rodriguez would not have wanted to be called an advocate for the Hispanic population. As a journalist, friends said Rodriguez strived for her objectivity. While she was working, former Chronicle assistant managing editor Fernando Dovalina said Rodriguez was bubbly and could command the attention of everyone she worked with.

“When she held court in the newsroom, everyone could hear her,” Dovalina said. “She was loud.”

But family said Rodriguez was quieter in her personal life. Martin Rodriguez, her

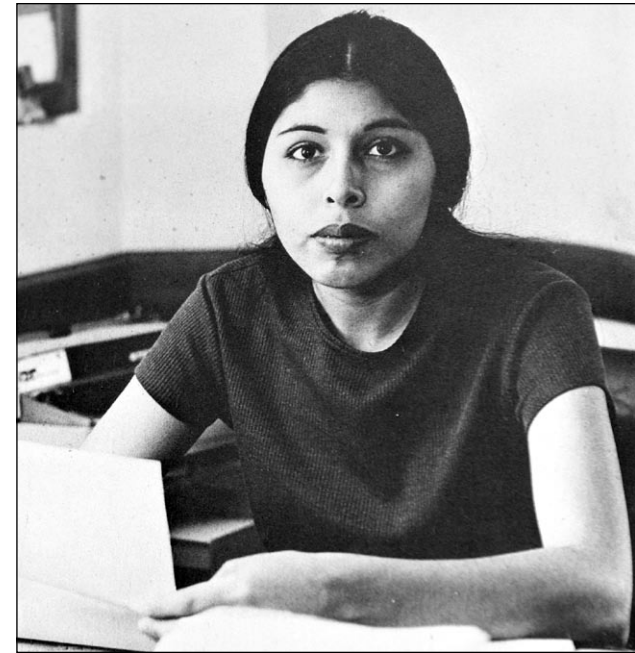


Photo courtesy of Cactus Yearbook

older brother, said Lori’s death came as a surprise, and the family has been struggling to move on since.

“When she was working, she was loud and outgoing,” Martin Rodriguez said. “But she was so quiet and re-

served outside of her job.” Martin Rodriguez said the memorial had helped his family move forward.

“My sister was a loving person,” Martin said. “And she loved her city — she loved her city so much.”

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FIREWORK *continues from page 6*

ficials are recommending people enjoy fireworks at community events where the explosives are handled by professionals, rather than buying and using their own. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, a department under the Federal Emergency Management Agency, fireworks caused 8,600 injuries in 2010, with 73 percent of them occurring between June 18 and July 18. FEMA warns that sparklers burn at a temperature around 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, enough to melt metal and cause third-degree burns. The agency also warns that firecrackers can injure a person’s hands or face if they explode at an unsafe distance.

Lisa Block, a spokeswoman for the Travis County Emergency Services, said

the Travis County Fire Marshal’s Office believes it is safer to attend public displays because fire-fighting equipment and personnel are nearby to handle any emergency, should one occur.

“Every year during New Year’s and the Fourth of July, the number of calls made to emergency services increases,” Block said. “Usually, there are reports of a fire an average of three calls a day, but as many as 212 calls have been received in one day on these holidays.”

Should people decide to purchase and use their own fireworks, Block said there were certain safety procedures Travis County recommends they follow, such as only using fireworks on smooth, flat surfaces, away

from leaves, grass, people and buildings. Block said it was also important to not use fireworks that seemed to be malfunctioning.

City of Round Rock spokesperson Roger Heaney said the fireworks show in Round Rock is performed by licensed pyrotechnicians and is staffed by the local fire department in the event of an accident. But Heaney said there has never been an accident in the 20 years Round Rock has been holding the celebration.

Heaney said people enjoy coming to the event because fireworks have always been something that fascinated them.

“Fireworks create a sense of adventure and safe danger,” Heaney said. “I think it also takes us all back when

we were kids and how we had a sense of wonder and amazement as a child when we witnessed fireworks for the first time.”

The Round Rock fireworks show is on July 4 and begins at 10 a.m. at Old Settlers Park. In Austin, the Austin Symphony July Fourth Concert and Fireworks, another fireworks celebration, is happening at Auditorium Shores at 8:30 p.m.

Heaney said public fireworks displays foster community spirit. But Pickrell said there is nothing like using fireworks on your own.

“People like to blow shit up,” Pickrell said. “Fireworks are a symbol of independence and American freedom. What other reasons do you need?”

LONDON-BOUND LONGHORNS

SWIMMING

By Sara Beth Purdy

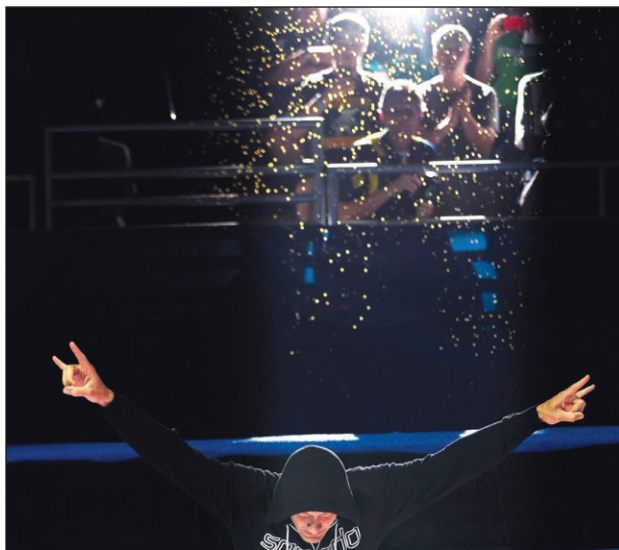
With the 2012 United States Olympic Trials are still in full swing, many Longhorns have already qualified to make the trip to London in three different sports.

In diving, former Longhorn Troy Dumais qualified for his fourth Olympic Games last week in Federal Way, Washington in two events. Dumais and his partner Kristian Ipsen from Stanford took first in the men's 3-meter synchronized springboard event to qualify. On the last day of the diving trials, Dumais finished second in the individual 3-meter springboard to earn his spot on Team USA.

In Eugene, Ore. at the track and field trials, Sanya Richards-Ross has qualified for her third Olympic Games in two events, the 200- and 400-meter races. This is the first time in her career that she has qualified for two different events. Richards-Ross won gold in Athens in 2004 and Beijing in 2008 for her part in the 4x400 meter relay. She also took home bronze in Beijing in the 400-meter individual event.

Richards-Ross will be joined in London by Trey Hardee in the decathlon and Michelle Carter in shot put. This will be Hardee's second trip to the Olympics after finishing fourth in the decathlon in 2008. Carter has also qualified for her second career Olympics. She finished fifteenth in Beijing in shot put.

Marquise Goodwin, a starter on the Longhorns' football team, finished first place in the men's long jump event with a jump of



David J. Phillip | Associated Press

Brendan Hansen kneels as he celebrates his win in the men's 100-meter breaststroke final at the U.S. Olympic swimming trials.

8.33 meters, a personal best to qualify for the Olympic team.

Several Longhorns have already qualified for Team USA in the pool, with several more attempting to make the team by the time trials end on July 2.

Former Longhorn Ricky Berens qualified for his second Olympics in the 400- and 800-meter freestyle relays. At the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, Berens won gold in the 800-meter freestyle relay along with Michael Phelps, Ryan Lochte and Peter Vanderkaay. Berens swam the third leg for the record-setting team. Berens came in third in his final heat on the 200-meter freestyle, missing the qualifying mark by just 0.81 seconds.

Brendan Hansen qualified for the 100-meter breaststroke with a second-place finish ahead of Longhorn Aquatics teammate Eric Shanteau, who also quali-

fied for the Olympics. This will be Hansen's second trip to the Summer Games. Hansen has four medals to his name, including a gold for his participation on the 800-meter freestyle relay with Berens.

Kathleen Hersey, who competed for the Longhorns for two years before turning professional with Longhorn Aquatics, placed second in the 200-meter butterfly to qualify for her second Olympic Games. Hersey narrowly missed qualifying in the 100-meter butterfly event by finishing in third place.

Jimmy Feigen is the new Olympian on the swim team for the Longhorns. Feigen qualified for the relay team with a fourth-place finish in the 100-meter freestyle event and will be attempting to qualify for 50-meter race as well.

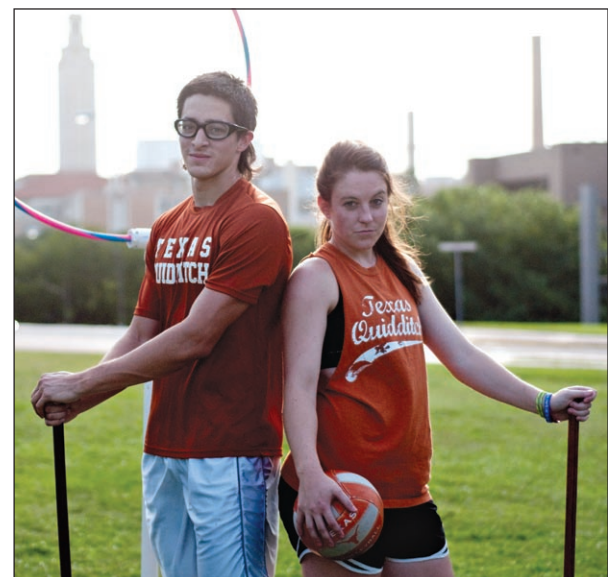
QUIDDITCH

By Nitya Duran

Although it will not be a recognized sporting event associated with the Olympics, there will in fact be an international Quidditch tournament, the International Quidditch Association Summer Games, in which the best players from around the country will represent Team USA and compete against the United Kingdom, Australia and France in a round-robin style of play in Oxford, England July 8-9.

Quidditch is an adaptation of the magical sport portrayed in the "Harry Potter" series. The object of the game is to score the quaffle in any of the three hoops on either side of the pitch. There are four positions: chaser, beater, keeper and seeker, each with their own assigned role that helps their team score points and win. Every time the quaffle is scored, that team is awarded 10 points. When the golden snitch, which is worth 30 points, is caught, the game ends and the team with the highest point total wins.

The top players from around the U.S. applied to the IQA with hopes of being able to represent Team USA in the IQA Summer Games in Oxford. There was originally a pool of more than 150 candidates to represent the U.S. in this international tournament. Two current Longhorns, Augustine Monroe, a junior social work major, and Sarah Holub, a senior public relations major, will be heading overseas to represent Team USA and participate in the tournament.



Pu Ying Huang | Daily Texan Staff

Augustine Monroe (left) and Sarah Holub (right) will travel to Oxford, England to participate in the 2012 IQA Summer Games.

"The community is unique — everybody is united," Monroe said. "When there's a tournament, people come in from other schools and other teams, and they're spending the night at your place if you're hosting the tournament, so you get to meet a lot of the players that you're playing against. Going into Team USA I already know a few of the other players because I've talked with them at other tournaments, but a majority I've never met and I am excited to meet because they're all quality people."

Monroe comes from an athletic background, playing multiple sports before joining the Texas Quidditch team. He fell in love with the game soon after and has been playing ever since. He is able to play every position well, but is listed as a

keeper for Team USA.

"The physicality of it is similar to any contact sport, but it is just very unique because there are many different elements to the game," Monroe said. "I first started playing a year ago, and since the first time I ran around on a makeshift broom, I saw the potential that the sport has. Now, one year later, it is being played in an international tournament across seas. It is an honor to have been selected for the first ever Quidditch Team USA."

The intent is to host the tournament alongside the Olympic torch ceremony in Oxford July 9 to raise awareness on the fast-growing sport by showcasing the IQA's focus on the athletic nature of the sport, as well as the idea of creating a worldwide community through the sport.

Davis recalls struggles of hiding homosexuality as NFL player

By **Louis San Miguel**

You won't find the name Wade Davis on the Jim Thorpe Award trophy or on any Pro Bowl roster, but the former NFL cornerback who had stints with the Titans, Seahawks and Redskins made headlines last month by becoming the fourth ex-NFL player to come out as gay.

Davis, now nine years removed from his playing days, came out publicly to Outsports.com, telling of the challenges that came from being a closeted gay man in the NFL.

"You just want to be one of the guys, and you don't want to lose that sense of family,"

Davis said. "Your biggest fear is that you'll lose that camaraderie and family. I think about how close I was with [Tennessee Titans teammates] Jevon [Kearse] and Samari [Rolle]. It's not like they'd like me less, it's that they have to protect their own brand."

Davis was forced to keep his secret in order to enhance his chances of making the Titans' roster. He sometimes had to go to great lengths to conceal his identity after a teammate told him not to associate with another player believed to be bisexual, as it would jeopardize his position on the team.

"I can remember going out that night, going to a strip club,

spending probably \$1,500 just to make sure ... if they even had a glimmer of a thought that I was gay, that I wasn't," Davis said. "I was willing to make it rain just like the rest of them were."

He had a great shot at making the roster, but suffered a hamstring injury. Instead, Titans sent him to NFL Europe, where he won the World Bowl with the Berlin Thunder. Due to other injuries, his NFL career came to end in 2003 without an appearance in a regular season game.

Davis now works for the Hetrick-Martin Institute, a group that serves lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youths in New York City.

He was also called in by the President to aid his 2012 re-election campaign.

Yet, Davis would have faced a different experience coming out as a gay man in the NFL in 2012. A new breed of NFL players have risen up in support of gay players in the NFL.

At the NFLPA Rookie Premiere, Heisman winner Robert Griffin III revealed that he once had a gay teammate on his high school football team and would not care if one of his NFL teammates came out as gay. Running backs Trent Richardson, third pick in the 2012 draft, Tampa Bay's Doug Martin and the 49er's LaMichael James also stressed that sexual orientation doesn't

matter to them when it comes to football.

Of current NFL players, Chris Kluwe, punter for the Minnesota Vikings, and Connor Barwin, the linebacker who helped lead a revamped Houston Texans defense to their first playoff appearance, are few of the many players who could be counted in support of the first openly gay NFL player.

"Times are really changing and people are understanding that there's really no reason to have an issue with [being gay]," Barwin said. "Embrace who people love and how they love."

Although no current NFL player has ever come

"
You just want to be one of the guys, and you don't want to lose that sense of family.
"

— Wade Davis, Cornerback

out while currently playing the game, the prevailing trend tells us it's only a matter of time.

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COLUMN

Cafe keeps drunken appeal post-remodel

By Laura Wright

Walking into the newly remodeled Kerbey Lane Cafe feels a little bit like walking into the waiting room of a hip pediatric dentist's office — that bright and that sterile. Gone is the reassuring grime of the brown tile floors and the glass cases full of chintzy UT memorabilia. Though the restaurant's interior may be brand new, gone also is the feeling of newness Kerbey Lane used to hold for the wide-eyed freshman version of myself.

My first real memory of the restaurant, which famously serves hordes of drunken patrons 24 hours a day, is eating there with my family the day I first moved into the dorms. I'd gone once before during orientation and had immediately bought into the idea of Kerbey Lane as my new favorite place to eat. It was an easy decision: the menu uses words like "local" and "vegan" — something I'd yet to see in my hometown of San Antonio. Taking in the artwork on the walls and the tattooed wait staff, I developed the distinct feeling that eating at Kerbey Lane was something I could only do in college, like wearing Chacos with sundresses or talking to boys I didn't know. Desperate for my family to see and appreciate this symbol of my soon-to-begin new life, I dragged them there for lunch. Sitting at a back table with my parents and younger sister, I still remember my disappointment



Patrons dine in the renovated Kerbey Lane Cafe on Guadalupe street Saturday night. The restaurant, which now hosts a waiting area, updated its layout, bar area and paint scheme.

Pu Ying Huang
Daily Texan Staff

ment when my father put down his sandwich without finishing and responded to my desperate "Isn't it just the best?" with a non-committal and unexcited "Sure."

Over the course of the next year, my freshman year, I found myself at Kerbey Lane time and time again, each meal eaten with the cast of for-now friends that populates your early-college confusion. A highly informal poll of my current friends confirms that Kerbey Lane plays this role for many a UT student: a sort of young-people driven Olive Garden, a place you never plan to go to and yet always seem to end up at. Like Olive Garden, the food isn't stellar, but it is convenient. Unlike Olive Garden, the experience

is better when you're dining drunk — on lack of sleep, a night spent dancing or any beverage served in a red cup.

This time, when I visit the newly remodeled Kerbey Lane, more than just the interior is different about the experience — it's only 11:30 p.m., I'm a rising junior, I'm with old friends instead of new ones and I've just finished a physics test, not attending a party. But the menu, the waitress reassures us, hasn't changed.

Unfortunately, what's true about the restaurant as a whole is particularly true about its food: it's best enjoyed when drunk. The famous Kerbey queso is not the treat I remembered: it's an average-tasting ball of guaca-

mole plopped in an average-tasting bowl of queso. And the first bite of the exalted pancakes causes my friend to pucker her lips and remark dryly, "starchy." My turkey-avocado sandwich consists of two limp pieces of bread lined with suspicious-tasting avocado cradling the main, disheartening event: three or so slices of turkey that miraculously manage to be both desiccated and congealed, giving them the overall taste of a cellulose-based turkey substitute. The sweet potato fries on the side taste straight out of the freezer aisle, and a few hours later a loud stomachache pays me back for eating all of them (unlike the sandwich, which I only took a few bites from).

The one standout dish is the Tomato Pie, part of the restaurant's seasonal menu. Tangy chopped tomato pieces outfitted in a natty miniature piecrust adorn themselves with a dressing of feta cheese and olives. Unlike the rest of the meal, it's hard to find something to complain about with this Kerbey stand-by.

OK, I think as we split the bill, maybe my father's lack of enthusiasm for the food was founded. As we stand up to leave, the light is more forgiving, and the restaurant in its new clothes finally looks smart and modern — what I imagine they were going for all along. About half of the

KERBEY continues on PAGE 14

MOVIE REVIEW:

'MAGIC MIKE'

STEVEN SODERBERGH

Carnal film offers more than thongs

By Alex Williams

"Magic Mike" is director Steven Soderbergh's third film in nine months, and it's remarkable that he hasn't burned himself out yet. After "Contagion," a sprawling ensemble piece that released in September, Soderbergh has been building his films around singular personalities, first with MMA fighter Gina Carano in January's underrated "Haywire," and now with Channing Tatum in "Magic Mike." And most surprising of all, "Magic Mike" is a worthy addition to Soderbergh's filmography, a surprisingly touching and smart examination of a very seedy profession.

Based on Channing Tatum's past as a male stripper, Tatum plays Mike, an aging stripper at a Tampa, Fla. nightclub with greater aspirations. Mike has a knack for furniture design, but is trying to earn money any way possible, and it's at a daytime construction job that he meets Adam (Alex Pettyfer). Before too long, Adam and Mike are hanging out, and then Mike gets Adam a job at the club where he works, owned by Dallas (Matthew McConaughey).

STRIP continues on PAGE 14

KERBEY

continues from page 13

booths are full, and it seems like everyone's enjoying the classics: Tomato Pie, queso, Lemon Poppy Seed Pancakes. The summer, our waitress told us, brings in a different crowd, but to really get the feel of Kerbey Lane, you've got to come "when the bars close" on a Friday or Saturday night during the school year. Sub-par food aside, I don't think I'd mind ending up here again at 4 a.m., which, considering that horrendous sandwich, I take as proof of Kerbey Lane's hard-to-shake appeal.

STRIP

continues from page 13

What follows is a fairly standard story of an aging star being pushed out of the spotlight by his up-and-coming protege, but it's Soderbergh's precise stylistic control that keeps the film from becoming dull. He shoots the strip club scenes with a seductive glamour and sheen, but when Mike and his co-workers venture out into the real world, things take on a washed-out, almost hungover visual grit. Also impressive is the fearlessness with which Soderbergh dives into the male stripper culture, and the depth of the small observations he makes about the sense of community that exists

among its inhabitants.

It can be assumed that Soderbergh took an interest in Tatum after his physical, roguish turn in "Haywire," the first of many impressive performances he's given this year. However, "Magic Mike" may be his best performance, and he's an arresting presence in the film. He's a showman, full of bravado and confidence on and offstage, and it's a self-aware, deeply charming performance in a film full of them. Mike ends up romantically entangled with Brooke (Cody Horn), Adam's protective older sister — Horn's restrained, coy demeanor makes

for good chemistry with Tatum's energetic goofiness.

I wasn't really aware of what the audience for "Magic Mike" was until I attended a press screening full of middle-aged women hooting and hollering every time a bare chest or thong came onscreen, but that crowd will certainly find what they're looking for. However, the film carries unexpected dramatic weight beneath its seductive exterior, and the way Soderbergh juggles sheer entertainment and more complex character development is the most impressive trick "Magic Mike" could have hoped for.



Carlos Pagan | Daily Texan Staff



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By DAVID
OUELLET

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G	P	O	L	A	P	A	V	E	P	O	R	W	R	N
N	E	S	P	A	C	E	A	V	A	G	P	E	O	I
I	Ⓢ	K	T	F	W	T	F	I	T	V	A	E	U	A
P	T	ⓐ	C	U	G	E	R	H	T	E	D	N	R	
A	I	N	ⓓ	R	E	N	N	D	E	C	K	S	D	R
C	C	H	E	Ⓛ	W	T	C	I	D	E	A	S	C	E
S	I	S	A	M	A	N	I	T	N	S	L	O	O	T
D	D	U	U	E	T	I	N	H	I	I	R	O	V	S
R	E	L	R	R	E	A	G	W	C	O	A	I	E	K
A	C	A	E	I	R	P	E	O	B	R	N	T	R	C
H	T	E	Z	I	L	I	T	R	E	F	A	A	E	O
E	S	H	R	U	B	S	A	G	T	G	N	P	L	R

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7/2

Aerate, Arbor, Architect, Bush, Care, Create, Decks, Driveway,
Features, Fencing, Fertilize, Functional, Gates, Grass, Ground
Cover, Grow, Hardscaping, Hire, Ideas, Land, Leaves, Lush,
Mulch, Open, Paint, Path, Patio, Pave, Pesticide, Pond, Pool,
Rake, Retaining Wall, Rocks, Shrubs, Soil, Space, Style, Swings,
Terrain, Tools, Treatment, Trees, Walkway, Water, Weeds
Last Answer: Fresh Cut

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4 TYPES OF CRICKETS IN AUSTIN



FREE FOOD



PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AFTER THE TONE



SUDOKU FOR YOU

Yesterday's solution

4	7	3	6	2	1	5	8	9
2	9	1	8	4	5	6	7	3
5	6	8	7	3	9	4	2	1
3	4	5	9	1	2	7	6	8
7	8	9	4	6	3	2	1	5
6	1	2	5	7	8	3	9	4
9	2	4	3	8	7	1	5	6
8	3	7	1	5	6	9	4	2
1	5	6	2	9	4	8	3	7



01001101

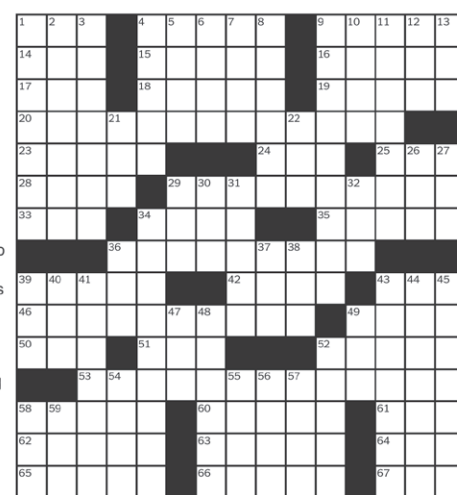


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0528

- Across**
- 1 Suffix with differ
- 4 Early American patriot Thomas
- 9 Speedy
- 14 Gen ____ (child of a 29-Across)
- 15 Capital of Jordan
- 16 "William Tell," for one
- 17 Where: Lat.
- 18 Land that's not inland
- 19 Gave a speeding ticket
- 20 Stereotypical entree at a campaign event
- 23 It's transused in a transfusion
- 24 Brits' thank-yous
- 25 ____ carte
- 28 Powerful D.C. lobby
- 29 One born in the late 1940s or '50s
- 33 Prefix with conservative
- 34 ____-Japanese War
- 35 Lerner's songwriting partner
- 36 Item carried by an Amish driver
- 39 Way underpriced
- 42 Ogled
- 43 Nothing ____ the truth
- 46 Farmer's wish
- 49 10th grader: Abbr.
- 50 ____Caps
- 51 Cheerleader's cheer
- 52 Authored
- 53 The starts of 20-, 29-, 36- and 46-Across, e.g., when repeated quickly in order
- 58 Protein acid, for short
- 60 U.C.L.A. athlete
- 61 "If you ask me," in texts
- Down**
- 1 Beyond the metro area
- 2 Interstellar clouds
- 3 ____ Bridge (former name of New York's R.F.K. Bridge)
- 4 Walked back and forth
- 5 Love personified
- 6 Apple computer
- 7 Poet Ogden
- 8 Thing
- 9 Absolutely dependable
- 10 "... blackbirds baked in ____"
- 11 Honeybunch or snookums
- 12 Rage
- 13 Annual June honoree
- 21 Jazz style
- 22 Taxi
- 26 ____ Alcindor (Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, once)
- 27 Live and breathe
- 29 Gargantuan
- 30 Taiwanese-born director Lee
- 31 Charles of "Algiers," 1938
- 32 "Alley ____"
- 34 Luminous stellar explosion



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

STIR	STAY	GOVT
CANA	PHOTO	RHEA
OHBYTHEWAY	ACTS	
TOOBAD	ERO	NOOK
TEXAS	SLIM	JIM
NEST	AUTEUR	
DUOS	HULA	DENNY
ASH	OHMYGOD	ODE
ZEBRA	PERP	TWOS
ERRORS	ETCH	
ONSTAGE	LEGAL	
LUTZ	RCA	MOHAVE
ECHO	OHFORGETIT	
GLEN	LOFAT	LOLA
SARI	LOST	PRAI

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